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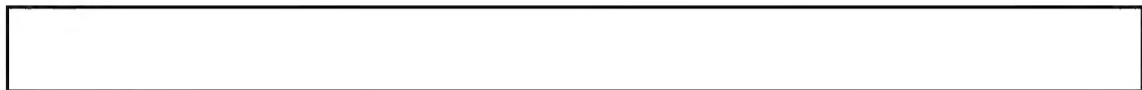
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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State Dept. review completed

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

24 February 1960

DAILY BRIEF

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Communist China - USSR: As during President Eisenhower's trip to Asia last December, Peiping and Moscow have given sharply divergent propaganda treatment to the President's Latin American trip, this time on the eve of his departure. The Chinese, taking an openly hostile attitude, bitterly charge that the United States is a "savage aggressor" and that Eisenhower "is no friend of the Latin American people." Moscow, on the other hand, thus far has given the trip reasonably factual coverage and has used foreign press quotations to imply that the trip is intended "to soften anti-American sentiments."

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

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UAR-Israel: The UAR military alert is continuing, although there has been no further UAR build-up in the Sinai area. Available evidence does not indicate that significant Israeli military preparations are under way. Some Israeli reaction to the UAR build-up is likely, however, with a resulting heightening of tensions in the area.

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India: The formation on 22 February of a coalition government by the Congress and Praja Socialist parties in Kerala state has resolved differences within the anti-Communist front for the present. Personality and policy conflicts probably will hamper the new cabinet's effort to restore effective government. Chief Minister Pillai, prominent Praja Socialist leader who headed two previous governments, may antagonize his coalition partners by his dictatorial tendencies. The Congress party's preponderant strength both in the cabinet and in the assembly, however, probably will help its leaders keep Pillai in line and maintain coalition unity.

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Japan - South Korea: Japanese restiveness over South Korean seizure and continued detention of fishermen operating in the Rhee Line area is mounting rapidly and may become serious, according to Ambassador MacArthur. There are strong pressures on the Japanese Government for a more forceful policy toward South Korea, including the use of armed ships to protect fishing boats and expulsion of the South Korean ambassador in Tokyo. There is a general Japanese feeling that the United States must share responsibility for the seizures because it has supplied oil and ammunition for the South Korean patrols. It is probable, however, that Tokyo would refer the dispute to the UN before sanctioning use of weapons.

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DAILY BRIEF

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Peiping and Moscow Issue Sharply Divergent Propaganda on
Eisenhower's Trip to Latin America

The propaganda coverage being given the early stages of President Eisenhower's Latin America trip by Peiping and Moscow diverges as sharply as their coverage of his trip to Asia last winter.

The Chinese are taking an openly hostile attitude. The authoritative party paper People's Daily on 23 February bitterly charged that the United States is a "savage aggressor" and that Eisenhower "is no friend of the Latin American people." Blaming Eisenhower for the overthrow of the "democratic" government of Guatemala in 1954, People's Daily warned that "American imperialism" is increasing its intervention in Cuba in order to subvert the Cuban revolution and impede the anti-US struggle in Latin America. One Chinese commentary cited the recent air raid over Cuba by an American-based plane as evidence of the "barbarity and shamelessness" of "American imperialism" and declared that the 650,000,000 Chinese people stand firmly by the side of the Cuban people.

Moscow, however, has given the trip reasonably factual coverage but has used excerpts from the foreign press to imply that the tour is intended to "soften the anti-American sentiment" in the area. A domestic broadcast on 22 February reported the President's television broadcast and quoted him on the purposes of the trip. This was offset, however, by comments purportedly taken from a Senate report on Latin America which Moscow claims is critical of US policy motivated by "egoism" and the "desire to increase profits." The American press is quoted as claiming that the President is not taking "any concrete proposals" which would help Latin Americans.

Peiping's harsh criticism illustrates again the basic disagreement between China and the USSR over the best tactics to be pursued toward the United States. While both powers agree that the future will belong to "socialism," the Chinese disagree with the Soviet policy of "peaceful contacts" to achieve that end and prefer a vigorous attack on the United States as the "arch-enemy" of the bloc.

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

Japanese Pressures Mounting for Forceful Policy Toward South Korea

Continued South Korean seizure and indefinite detention of Japanese fishermen operating in the vicinity of the Rhee Line is causing concern in Japan which may become serious, according to Ambassador MacArthur in Tokyo.

The Japanese press, the fishing industry, groups organized for the welfare of families of detained fishermen, and officers of the Maritime Safety Board (coast guard) are calling for a forceful policy, including use of armed boats to protect fishing craft and expulsion of the South Korean ambassador. There is some feeling that the United States must share responsibility for existing conditions because of its support for President Rhee and because it has provided oil and ammunition for the South Korean patrol boats.

The sinking of a Japanese fishing boat on 12 February by a South Korean patrol vessel has intensified Japanese feeling. Moreover, an expected exchange of detainees in early March may be delayed, or even shelved, by South Korea's insistence on additional terms after Japan had agreed in principle to purchase 30,000 tons of rice as a price for obtaining the release of 167 fishermen who have completed their sentences. Another 47 fishermen are either serving terms or awaiting trial.

Meanwhile, Japan has announced plans to arm all its patrol boats in the Rhee Line area by April, a step which Seoul calls a "provocative action" and a "matter for grave concern." It is probable, however, that the Japanese announcement is intended to intimidate South Korea and that Tokyo would refer the dispute to the UN before sanctioning use of these weapons.

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